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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/668,084	09/22/2003	Dieter Binz	Mp.Nr. 01/528	1252
24131	7590	09/22/2004	EXAMINER	
LERNER AND GREENBERG, PA P O BOX 2480 HOLLYWOOD, FL 33022-2480			LAU, TUNG S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2863	
DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/668,084

Applicant(s)

BINZ ET AL.

Examiner

Tung S Lau

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9-22-03</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by  
Morozumi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,628,208).

Regarding claim 1:

Morozumi discloses a device for examining liquids, comprising: a structural device (fig. 3); an evaluation device integrated in said structural device, said evaluation device having a data memory (fig. 2, unit 40,50, 20), a voltage supply unit, a display device, an operating system (fig. 2, unit 49), a processor (fig. 2, unit 51), and components for a mobile radio function (fig. 2, unit 30); an interface module integrated in said structural device (fig. 2, unit 3), said interface module having at least one voltage regulator, a preamplifier and a processor (fig. 2, unit 7, 49); at least one exchangeable sensor connected to said evaluation device through said interface module, said exchangeable sensor formed as a card and having at least one measuring device, a sample receiving channel (Col. 5, Lines 14-28), a heating element, a temperature sensor and a coding device (Col. 4,

Lines 44-58), said exchangeable sensor electrically and mechanically connected to unit in an inserted state (fig. 2, unit 6, 5); and said structural serial electrical plug-in connections disposed on said interface module and said exchangeable sensor for connecting said interface module to said exchangeable sensor (Col. 5, Lines 14-28, fig. 2, unit 6, 5, 22).

Regarding claim 2, Morozumi discloses an electrical regulator to said voltage conductor track connecting said voltage supply unit (fig. 2, unit 49, 50); and a serial data line connecting said processor of said interface module to said data memory of said evaluation device (Col. 5, Lines 14-28, fig. 2, unit 6, 5, 22, 50).

Regarding claim 3, Morozumi discloses signal lines; wherein said preamplifier has a signal output (fig. 1d, unit 11); and wherein said processor of said interface module has signal inputs connected to said signal output of said preamplifier (fig. 2, unit 45, 50, 20), temperature said signal inputs further connected to said sensor and said coding device through said signal lines and said serial electrical plug-in connections (fig. 2, unit 6, 5).

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 4, 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: prior art fail to teach the exchangeable sensor has electrical conductor tracks connected between said heating element and said serial electrical plug-in connections and between said electrodes and said serial electrical plug-in connections, said heating element and said electrodes connected to said voltage regulator through said electrical conductor tracks and said serial electrical plug-in connections. a number of measurements which can still be performed and have already been carried out, a batch number, a date of manufacture and a service life of said exchangeable sensor.

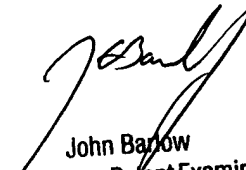
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung S Lau whose telephone number is 571-272-2274. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on 571-272-2269. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306

Art Unit: 2863

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TL



John Barlow  
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